



# Walworth County Genealogical Society Newsletter

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May-June 2017

Please consider making a donation to the local food bank, or to the Lakeland Animal Shelter. If you bring your donation to the meeting, one of our members will make sure the donation gets delivered.

*Please pay your 2017 dues-Don't forget to like us on Facebook-Walworth County Genealogical Society Inc*

*In the event a meeting is cancelled due to inclement weather, we will post a message on the website [www.walworthcgs.com](http://www.walworthcgs.com) or call 414-378-9879.*

## 2017 Meetings, Events

**June 6, 2017-6:30pm**

**Area Research Center at UW-Whitewater with Karen Weston**

Please contact Chris or Martha if carpooling is needed.

**July 8th—Saturday- Hillside Cemetery—Whitewater—Time TBD— Prepping for 2018 Cemetery Walk**

**August 1—6:30 pm—Ice Cream Social - Delavan Community Center**

**Sept 5— Annual Dinner 5:30– location to be announced at a later date, but save the date!**

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## How many ancestors do you have?

Parents: 2
Grandparents: 4
Great-Grandparents: 8
2nd Great-Grandparents: 16
3rd Great-Grandparents: 32
4th Great-Grandparents: 64
5th Great-Grandparents: 128
6th Great-Grandparents: 256
7th Great-Grandparents: 512
8th Great-Grandparents: 1,024
9th Great-Grandparents: 2,048
10th Great-Grandparents: 4,096





# From the President's Desk



Chris Brookes & Martha Hay- WCGS Co-Presidents

## Chris's Message:

Dear WCGS Friends –

I'm home from my grand Irish "fishing trip" – didn't catch the big one but got a few more nibbles. Thanks to Co-Pres Martha Hay for presiding over the April meeting. I hope you enjoyed visiting our WCGS library. I enjoyed my own meeting at a gorgeous place called The Meeting of the Waters near the little village of Avoca where the PBS show Ballykissangel was filmed.

On May 2, we hosted DNA expert Mary Eberle from Madison. Her informative program helped us interpret Ancestry DNA results in plain language. I can email you electronic copies of the handouts if you were not able to attend the meeting. Let me know. We appreciate Director Lisa Selje and Chad Robinson from Mathe-son Memorial Library co-sponsoring the program with WCGS. Also thanks to Loretta, Diana, Nancy O, Mike & Martha for refreshments.

Remember our June meeting is at the Area Research Center (ARC) in the Andersen Library on the campus of UW-Whitewater, hosted by our Archivist V.P. Karen Weston. Regular time 6:30 p.m. Let me or Martha know if you'd like to car-pool.

Also our July meeting is scheduled for Saturday, July 8, at Hillside Cemetery in Whitewater. We'll start preparing for our 2018 Cemetery Walk, a big one, in conjunction with the University's sesquicentennial celebration.

Stay tuned to our website [walworthcgs.com](http://walworthcgs.com) and Facebook page Walworth County Genealogical Society, Inc. for updates.

In closing, I'll leave you with a bit of Irish wit and wisdom from the County Monaghan booklet of genealogy tips: "Only a genealogist regards a step back-wards as progress."

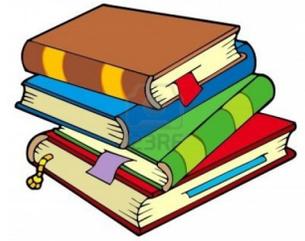


## Martha's Co-comments

Well it looks like Spring and Summer may be coming after all. Our May meeting in Elkhorn went quite well and attendance was good. Looks like more people are getting interested in their DNA and want to know where they come from, although I have spoken to some people who are leery in case they might get a surprise. I say surprises are what make life interesting.

Our June meeting will be in Whitewater at the ARC hosted by Vice-President Karen Weston. If anyone wants to carpool, please let us know.

## WCGS Library Page



From the library committee:

Our book inventory is almost complete. Marilyn is updating the computer index and we'll double check the few items that we may have missed. We will then make the index available. Our next project is to decide how we can change how the library is organized to make it more useful.

Researching an obituary. You can glean a lot of information from them. Even the obit notices can fill in missing vital info. In this time of day and age electronics has become the norm and digitalizing is continuing to be done on archival newspapers. One advantage is that digitalizing can enhance the images so they are more readable and can also be searched by names. According to Martin W. Johnson, area Historian & Researcher from Belvidere, IL quite a few newspapers have recently been digitalized and put on the internet. Most are a pay website with trial option. Here is a listing by Mr. Johnson.

[www.newspapers.com](http://www.newspapers.com) a pay website.

BELVIDERE, BOONE CO. ILLINOIS = FOUR PAPERS 1850-1978.

DEKALB, DEKALB CO. ILLINOIS = THREE PAPERS 1879-2016.

FREEPORT, STEPHENSON CO. ILLINOIS=FREEPORT JOURNAL STANDARD 1883-1977.

MARENGO, MCHENRY CO. ILLINOIS = FOUR PAPERS=1872-1986, FEW YEARS MISSING.

STERLING, WHITESIDE CO. ILLINOIS = THREE PAPERS=1866-1928. A FEW YEARS MISSING.

WOODSTOCK, MCHENRY CO. ILLINOIS = 8 PAPERS=1860-1985.

JANESVILLE, ROCK CO. WISCONSIN = TWO PAPERS=1845-1970.

[www.newspaperarchive.com](http://www.newspaperarchive.com) a pay website.

FREEPORT, STEPHENSON CO. ILLINOIS=14 PAPERS=1848-1990.

DIXON, LEE CO. ILLINOIS=NINE PAPERS=1852-1990.

STERLING, WHITESIDE CO. ILLINOIS=1854-1980.

BELOIT, ROCK CO. WISCONSIN=FOUR PAPERS=1848-1890.

JANESVILLE, ROCK CO. WISCONSIN=20 PAPERS=1845-2014.

[www.joinerhistoryroom.org](http://www.joinerhistoryroom.org) a free website.

SYCAMORE, DEKALB CO. ILLINOIS=DEC 15, 1869-DEC 31,1968.

[www.genealogybank.com](http://www.genealogybank.com) a pay website.

ROCKFORD, WINNEBAGO CO. ILLINOIS=24 PAPERS 1840-2008.

The obits we have in our library have been from donations and are not complete. In some cases there are months or years missing. Although they are not digitized, we do have a nice collection from the Beloit Daily News 1960-1968, Delavan Enterprise 1958-2005, East Troy News & Times 1990-2006, Elkhorn Independent 1917-1998, Janesville, (has a lot of names from Walworth Co.) 1889-2008, Lake Geneva Regional News 1970-2010, Sharon Reporter 1944-1997, Walworth Center Cem. obits 1983-1989, Westosha 1995-2004. If anyone has or knows of older newspapers with obits we don't have, would you like to donate the obits? Contact our librarians for instructions.



# The Schinkes of Springfield

By Christine Brookes

## The Schinkes of Springfield

In 2012, the WCGS Cemetery Walk and Re-enactment at the Springfield Union Cemetery in the Town of Lyons was hosted by Tim and Karen Schinke, new WCGS members. Featured families were Charles G. Harms (Pagel), James N. Webster, Edward L. Gott, Arnold Weeks, Nathan Chappel, Jacob Olp, and Charles F. Schinke.

Descendant Tim Schinke, cemetery sextant, told the story of his grandparents Charles F. and Minnie (Sponholtz) Schinke. According to Volume III of *Southeastern Wisconsin: A History of Old Milwaukee County* by John G. Gregory, Charles F. Schinke was born April 20, 1874, near Berlin, Germany, the son of Edward and Bertha (Schmidt) Schinke. He came to America with his parents in 1888, settling in Walworth County where his father worked on the Milo Ranney farm near Bowers Station for eight years. The family moved on to the Tibbits area for three years, before Edward purchased 153 acres in Sugar Creek Township which he farmed until 1920.

Edward and Bertha Schinke had six children: Charles F., Emma, Frank, Otto, Anna, and Paul. Young Charles worked in the Milo Ranney dairy plant making butter. After taking an agricultural course at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, he returned to Bowers as head butter-maker in 1894. On September 26, 1905, Charles resigned his position to go into business for himself, purchasing the Farmers Creamery in Springfield. The Springfield Creamery produced a high grade of butter, most of which was shipped to New York. Fire destroyed the butter-making plant in 1917. Charles then built and equipped a large creamery on Railroad Avenue. The modern plant shipped about 42,000 pounds of skimmed milk per week to Chicago; the Thompson restaurants purchased all of the cream separated at the Springfield plant.

In 1899, Charles married Minnie L. Sponholtz of Richmond, Illinois. Her parents, August and Louise Sponholtz, brought their family from Germany in the 1850s, settling in McHenry County.

Charles and Minnie were the parents of seven children: George R., Arthur R., Ethel, Vernon K., Grace, Walter C., and Warren I. the three oldest sons worked alongside their father in the creamery. Daughters Ethel and Grace and son Walter all became teachers; Warren had an insurance agency. Charles Schinke died December 4, 1953, and Minnie passed away November 24, 1961.

Other family members listed on the Schinke Monument are:

*George & Esther Schinke*

*Walter & Helen Schinke*

*Warren & Phyllis Schinke*

*Gilbert & Ethel Wernicke*

Nearby are Karen's parents:

*Frank & Wilhelmina Peters*

Currently Tim and Karen are busy uploading and editing Springfield Union Cemetery records on Find a Grave.

Below—Presenters during the 2012 WCGS Cemetery Walk



Below — Tim Schinke





# AROUND THE COUNTY TIDBITS

by Shirley Sisk

Walworth – Clifford Bell is sick with pneumonia. Dr. Maxon thinks he will come out all right soon.-----Carl Fredrick traded his run-a-way colt for Tom Marriot’s team, even up, and both feel better.-----The store house on Phillips farm, an old landmark erected by Amos Bailey in 1848, is being razed.-----Eugene Dangerfield is nursing a very lame back caused by hard out-door work too soon after leaving the store, where he has been for the last two years.-----L. H. Hitchcock, an old time Walworth boy, was in town last week visiting relatives and friends. Len is now a prosperous hardware merchant at Marinette, Michigan-----Miss Lola Bell with her niece, Georgia, and nephews, Donald and Kirk Farrar, of Elkhorn, were visiting at her brother’s Sunday. They drove a horse belonging to Geo. Wylie, which was handled very cautiously for fear he would exhibit some trick.-----H. Wickham will sell his personal property at auction Wednesday. He will go into a meat market at Avondale, a station this side of Chicago. He is a good fellow and we are sorry to lose him. (Walworth County Independent, Elkhorn, Wis. March 28, 1889)

Millard – Miss Ella Barker is again with relatives here.-----Miss Bessie Loomer is learning dressmaking at Delavan.-----Vera Ells was on the sick list last week.-----Charles Loomer sold four cows last week to Harvey Hulce, of Delavan.-----Rev. E. Packer returned to Sheridan, Iowa this week, after his family and household goods.-----The Mission Band under their leader Mrs. Mary Weaver have charge of the services next Sunday morning. “Japan” is the subject of the program and a collection will be taken for the children’s missionary in Japan. Come.-----Miss Lizzie Holloway took up her

school duties at the Normal this week. (The Enterprise, Delavan, Wisconsin, Thursday, April 21, 1898)

Richmond – Clarence Knilans is just recovering from a severe attack of lagrippe.--Mr. James McFarlane sails for Scotland April 24, to be gone several months.-----Mr. Thomas Cavaney was in Waukesha last week on business.-----Mr. and Mrs. John Piper, of Darien, Sundayed with Richmond friends.-----Mark Knilans drove over from Emerald Grove Sunday, for a visit with the home folks. (The Enterprise, Delavan, Wis., Thursday, April 21, 1898)

Allen’s Grove – Mrs. J. Folts, of Milwaukee, visited here with her mother, Mrs. Liddle, last week.-----Born April 17, to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wells, a daughter.-----P. Blake, of Waupaca, is visiting his daughter, Mrs. A. P. Wilkins.-----C.F. Macafe has returned from a business trip to Tonawanda, N.Y.-----A number from here attended the sale at the D. Dykeman place last Saturday.-----George Cary had his face cut quite badly last Thursday, by being struck by a horse. (The Enterprise, Delavan, Wisconsin, Thursday,

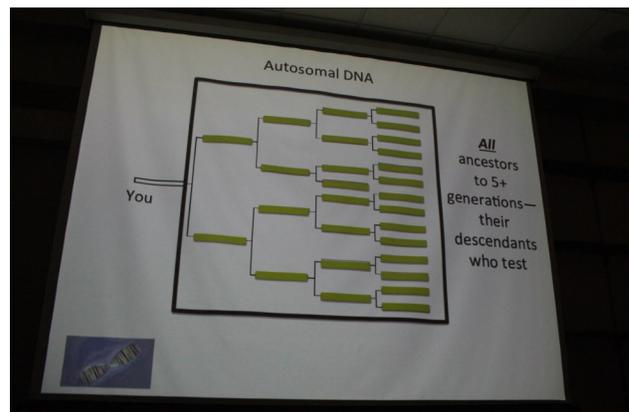
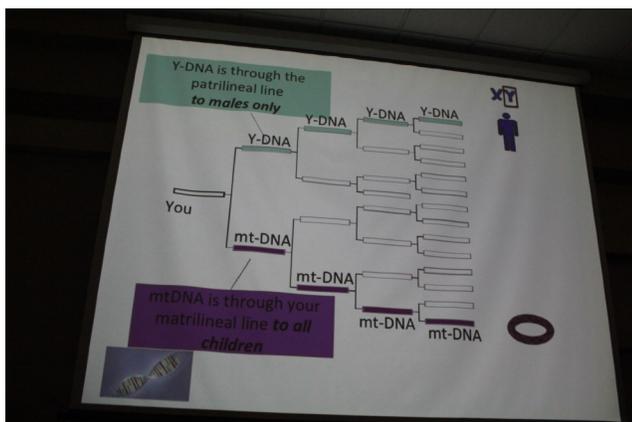




## *Program Recaps April -May* *Treasures of the WCGS Library- April* *Understanding your AncestryDNA results-May*

Our April program was held in our Library in Elkhorn. Diane Bird, Marilyn Traver, and Judy Rockwell of the WCGS Library Committee showed us what resources are available, the shelf re-organizing that is being done, and Judy demonstrated the new scanner that can be used with a small fee. Always informative!

Our May Meeting in the Community Room at Matheson Memorial Library was well attended. Our speaker, Mary Eberle, made DNA less confusing to those who attended. Mary explained the difference between autosomal, mitochondrial, and Y-dna (see the charts below). At the end of the program, Mary opened the floor to questions. [www.dnahunters.com](http://www.dnahunters.com) is Mary's website address.





# Types of Records Word Search

**FamilyTree**  
MAGAZINE

In this puzzle we have hidden 12 types of records genealogists often use to trace their family trees. Can you find them all?

**Hint:** Use the word list below for help. Words are hidden horizontally, vertically and diagonally.

## WORD LIST

- Census
- Birth Certificate
- Obituary
- Cemetery
- Marriage license
- Deed
- Will
- Family bible
- Military papers
- Old letters
- Citizenship papers
- City directory

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S E M R Y M Y C E Y B I R L A H
R A A D C M R I S R Y T D S S L
E C L F B B O I N R C R T A I R
P O L D L E T T E R S L S Y A I
A B P A P L C T C E W U Y L F I
P I C M R L E A I I S M R S A Y
P T L D S M R Z L N C P L A M S
I U D E E D I L E A R U M E I I
H A T C R M D C G B E P C R L R
S R E P A P Y R A T I L I M Y E
N Y S T L S T R I D T S L L B N
E T A C I F I T R E C H T R I B
Z F S M P P C M R I S R Z A B T
I B F P S S A O A B E E P O L R
T C O I E U T S M A R I P L E E
I T A R I S T L P E L I F E E H
C M E I E S L I I T A N E A A E
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**family tree kids!**  
making family history fun

get more puzzles and cool genealogy  
stuff at <[kids.familytreemagazine.com](http://kids.familytreemagazine.com)>

## MORE TIDBITS...

Don't forget if you order thru Amazon, you can contribute to WCGS at no additional cost to you. Just go to Smile.Amazon.com, choose WCGS as the organization, and Amazon will contribute a portion of your sale automatically, and will continue to do so with each purchase you make. Smile.Amazon is still the Amazon you are used to, all your order history is intact, the service level is the same. Thank you in advance for your contribution to WCGS.

A recent change in state statutes allows Wisconsin residents to more easily obtain public documents. A Jan 5, 2017 article in the Janesville Gazette states all Wisconsin Register of Deeds offices may issue birth, death, marriage and divorce records regardless of the county in which the event occurred, so long as the event occurred in WI. This is now possible because of a statewide database that allows all offices to access the records. WI births since 1907; deaths since Sept 1, 2013; marriages since June 21, 2015; and divorces since Jan 1, 2016 are available. For records prior to the above dates, individuals would still have to go to the county in which the event took place to obtain the records. The State Vital Records Office is working with local register of deeds offices to load specific records on demand until all historic records are converted.

### Have you ever requested an ancestor's Social Security record?

I found the following information in the Winnebago Boone County Newsletter, very helpful. Years ago, when a person applying for a Social Security number didn't have a birth certificate, they had to take supporting documentation and a family member or other person to be a witness on their behalf. You can apply for a copy of the SS-5 form using the SSA-711 form. <https://www.ssa.gov/forms/ssa-711.pdf>. **The following link brings up 3 other similar articles:** <https://www.legalgenealogist.com/?s=ss-5>

Form SS-5 TREASURY DEPARTMENT INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE		U. S. SOCIAL SECURITY ACT APPLICATION FOR ACCOUNT NUMBER <u>320-09-1857</u>	
1. PRINT NAME <u>Washington</u>		(MIDDLE NAME) <u>Walters</u> (LAST NAME) <u>Walters</u>	
2. <u>5905 Biddings St.,</u> (STREET AND NUMBER)		3. <u>Chicago,</u> <u>Illinois</u> (POST OFFICE) (STATE)	
4. <u>Bowman Dairy Company</u> (BUSINESS NAME OF PRESENT EMPLOYER)		5. <u>1802 Berteau Ave., Chicago, Ill.</u> (BUSINESS ADDRESS OF PRESENT EMPLOYER)	
6. <u>39</u> (AGE AT LAST BIRTHDAY)	7. <u>March 23, 1897</u> (DATE OF BIRTH: (MONTH) (DAY) (YEAR) (SUBJECT TO LATER VERIFICATION))		8. <u>Chicago, Illinois</u> (PLACE OF BIRTH)
9. <u>Peter Bruno Walters</u> (FATHER'S FULL NAME)		10. <u>Matilde Olsen</u> (MOTHER'S FULL NAME)	
11. SEX: MALE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FEMALE <input type="checkbox"/> (CHECK (X) WHICH)		12. COLOR: WHITE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NEGRO <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER <input type="checkbox"/> (CHECK (X) WHICH) (SPECIFY) <u>1-1</u>	
13. IF REGISTERED WITH THE U. S. EMPLOYMENT SERVICE, GIVE NUMBER OF REGISTRATION CARD _____			
14. IF YOU HAVE PREVIOUSLY FILLED OUT A CARD LIKE THIS, STATE _____			
15. <u>DEC 3 1936</u> (DATE SIGNED)		16. <u>Washington</u> <u>Walters</u> (PLACE) (DATE) (EMPLOYEE'S SIGNATURE) (WITNER)	

Below is a survey to help the society be more responsive to our members and to assist us in gaining new members. Please fill it out and bring it to the next meeting or send it to WCGS, P.O. Box 159, Delavan, WI, 53115-0159, and make it attention to: WCGS Newsletter Editor or email it to [wgsnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:wgsnewsletter@gmail.com). You, the members of WCGS, know what programs you would like to see. Without your input, we can only guess what you are interested in. Please help us make good decisions.

### Survey

1. Are there any past programs we have presented that you would like to have us repeat? If the answer is “yes” which programs and why?

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2. Would you be interested in a group research trip to the Newberry Library in Chicago or the Historical Society in Madison?

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3. What topics would you like to see as a program?

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4. What project or projects would you like to see the Society focus on?

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5. What suggestions do you have to help increase our membership?

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6. Would you be willing to take part in workshops presented by the Society?

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I'm desperately looking for more members to fill out the “Are You Related to Me?” form. If you need a form, email me at [wgsnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:wgsnewsletter@gmail.com) and I will be glad to send it to you.



## WALWORTH COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OFFICERS

CO-PRESIDENTS	Martha Hay Chris Brookes	455 Fellows Road 721 S. Curtis St. #139	Genoa City, WI Lake Geneva, WI	wcgspres@gmail.com cbrookes@wi.rr.com
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DIRECTOR(S)	Diana Bird Karen Helwig Judy Rockwell Dolores Schutt		Harvard, IL Whitewater, WI Elkhorn, WI Clinton, WI	
OTHERS:	Newsletter Editor: Peggy Schutt <a href="mailto:wcsnewsletter@gmail.com">wcsnewsletter@gmail.com</a> Library Committee: Diana Bird, Judy Rockwell, and Marilyn Traver Historian: Pat Blackmer			

Regular meetings of the WCGS are the first Tuesday of each month at the

**Delavan Community Centre, 826 E. Geneva St., Delavan, WI.**

Library Hours: Matheson Memorial Library, 101 N. Wisconsin St., Elkhorn, WI- Every Tues. 10-3pm, phone 262-723-9150  
other times by appt - call 262-279-6541

The membership year runs from Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> thru Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>. The newsletter is published bi-monthly.

\*\*\*\*Dues are \$15 (\$100 Lifetime) for an individual, \$18.00 (\$200 Lifetime) for a family, \$25 contributing, \$7.50 student.  
\$5.00 additional per year to receive the newsletter through the mail.

MEMBERS: Want email meeting minutes or not?? Contact Marilyn Traver, [msearchin@gmail.com](mailto:msearchin@gmail.com)

**Visit the Walworth County website and uncover your roots! <http://www.walworthcgs.com>**

Email us at: [societynews@walworthcgs.com](mailto:societynews@walworthcgs.com)

WALWORTH COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
P.O. BOX 159  
DELAVAN, WI 53115-0159