



# Walworth County Genealogical Society



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**Mission Statement**-The WCGS was organized for the purpose of bringing together family researchers who can network together and promote preservation of heirlooms and documents. Our goal is to help others find their ancestors, to educate them about genealogy, to copy cemeteries in the area and to stimulate interest in the county and genealogy.

*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.*

### Autumn 2017 Meetings



October 3rd—6:30pm—Delavan Community Center -Native American Program by Karen Weston

November 7th—6:30pm-Delavan Community Center -President of German Interest Group-JohnWaserstrass

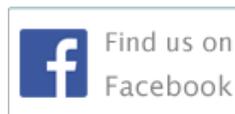
December 5th-6:30pm-Delavan Community Center—Holiday Party

## IN THIS ISSUE



From the President's Desk.....	Pg 47
Library Page.....	Pg 48
Mary Carver Leiter .....	Pg 49
Around the County.....	Pg 50
Program Recap Sep-Oct.....	Pg 51
Memoriams.....	Pg 52
Barrett Program, Tidbit .....	Pg 53
Editor Tidbits.....	Pg 54
Noncents-Martha, Mike.....	Pg 55

*Welcome to new members Barbara Shreves and Sharon Ford!*



[www.facebook.com/wcwgcs](http://www.facebook.com/wcwgcs)





## From the President's Desk



Chris Brookes & Martha Hay- WCGS Co-Presidents

### Chris's Message:

In August, WCGS was invited by three separate organizations to present programs on how to get started with genealogical research. All were very well received, and our Society made a good showing with officers, board members, and volunteers attending. We thank them all for giving some time to represent our group. Participating in WCGS events in the community is one way to support our Society. The Library Committee always appreciates help on Tuesdays (10:00 – 3:00). Library volunteers can help fill in the index of local newspaper obituaries; the file is all set up on the computer waiting for willing fingers! Another opportunity for those who would prefer to work from home – helping someone who contacts WCGS for information. Requests come in to the WCGS Contact email: maiden names, birth/death certificates, obituaries, etc. Are you willing to take on a project for someone? If so, let us know.

Coming soon: October is Family History Month. Watch for an announcement of our own Celebration of Family Heritage (in place of the tri-county Family History Fair). We're in the process of setting a date with the Matheson Memorial Library and planning the program. Let me know if you are interested in helping. Save the dates for our upcoming meetings:

October 3 (6:30 Delavan) Native American program

November 7 (6:30 Delavan) President of the German Interest Group

December 5 (5:30 Delavan) Holiday Party

See you soon!

Chris



### Martha's Comments:

August was a busy month for our group.

We gave a beginning genealogy program to the Delavan High Alumni Association on Monday, the 21<sup>st</sup>. The folks that attended seemed very interested and asked many questions.

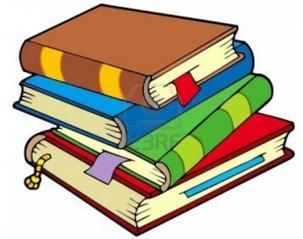
On Tuesday, the 22<sup>nd</sup>, we were invited by the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War to present a short beginning genealogy program in our library room.

On Wednesday, the 23<sup>rd</sup>, we gave still another program at Barrett Library in Williams Bay. Every member of the library committee, Karen Weston, Chris Brookes, and me gave information to the attendees. We had a decent turnout and hope to be invited there again.

More and more people are becoming interested in doing their family research. We are trying very hard to let people know we are here and hoping to bring some of these people into the group as members.

Speaking of family, Mike and I will be in River Falls, Wisconsin Thursday, September 21 through Tuesday, September 26 visiting my sister, Jacky, and my nephew, Mike.

## WCGS Library Page



### Library Report

The WCGS library committee have added quite a few books this summer to our shelves. These listings cover a wide range of information, so be sure and look these over to see if they are of interest.

Locally: "Walworth County Wi. 2016 plat book"

"Edward Ayers life history"

"Paris Cemetery, Kenosha Co. Wi.."

"Granville Township Settlers , Vol 1&2, Milwaukee Co Wi."

"Town of Granville Irish and St. Michaels Cemetery"

"The History of Illinois and It's People", a 6 vol. set

New England:

"The Flowering of New England"

" Genealogical Registry of the First Settlers of New England"

"Supplement to Torrey's New England Marriages, Prior to 1700"

Also:

"New Hampshire"

"The Plymouth Adventure"

"Rowley, Massachusetts Records Town, Church, Cemetery"

" Wakefield, Massachusetts, A History 1644-1944"

"History of Haverhill, Massachusetts"

"1855 and 1865 State Census' for South Reading, Massachusetts"

"1855 and 1865 State Census' for Halifax and Hull Massachusetts"

Many of these books are indexed also, stop on in!!!  
Respectfully, Diana Bird



To contact any of the members:

Diana Bird - 815-943-3690 - leave a message if no answer.

birddiana1@gmail.com

Judy Rockwell - jjrockwell@gmail.com

Marilyn Traver - msearchin@gmail.com



## Mary Theresa Carver Leiter—Her Story

By Christine Brookes

Mary Theresa Carver Leiter's goal in life was to get her daughters married to members of the English aristocracy. She was born in Mohawk, New York in 1844, the daughter of Benjamin Carver, a banker, and Nancy Lathrop Fish. Mary was a school teacher who married an up and coming Chicago businessman by the name of Levi Ziegler Leiter. They had one son and three daughters.

Levi came to Chicago with some dry goods and bookkeeping experience. He met a couple of other up and comers, Marshall Field and Potter Palmer. They eventually went into business together as Field, Palmer, Leiter & Co. Palmer left the business to pursue real estate, and the firm became known as Field & Leiter, later just Marshall Field & Co.

Levi Leiter invested in real estate and corporate interests. With his increasing wealth he built a house on Calumet Avenue in Chicago and a summer home, Lindon Lodge, in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. In 1891, the Leiters built a mansion on DuPont Circle in Washington, D.C. From there Mary Theresa began her campaign to attract suitors for daughters Mary Victoria, Nancy Lathrop, and Marguerite Hyde Leiter.

Mary Theresa took her daughters to London for the season. It was there that Mary Victoria captured the eye of young George Curzon, the future 1st Marquess Curzon of Kedleston. He later became Viceroy of India, making Mary the Vicereine, second ranking woman to Queen Victoria. Supposedly, Cora Crawley, countess of Grantham on "Downton Abbey," is modeled after Mary Victoria.

Arthur Conan Doyle of Sherlock Holmes fame, escorted Lady Mary to dinner at a reception for the Prince and Princess of Wales. He declared privately that he thought Lady Mary would make a better Queen than the Princess of Wales! An American! Little Mary Leiter of Chicago and Lake Geneva! Mrs. Leiter also succeeded in marrying off Marguerite (AKA Daisy) to Henry Molineux Howard, the 19th Earl of Suffolk and 12th Earl of Berkshire, and Nancy to Col. Colin Campbell, British army officer.

In addition to her social ambitions, Mrs. Leiter was the Queen of the Malapropisms. In other words, she often used an incorrect word in place of one that is similar in pronunciation. For example, upon returning from an ocean voyage, she was heard to announce, "At last, I am back on terra-cotta." She described her house as being filled with "statutes," "spinal staircases," and "sexual bookcases."

Levi was buried surrounded by six feet of concrete and steel because he was afraid that someone would steal his body from Rock Creek Cemetery, Washington D.C. Later a glass coffin was added to the grave site topped by a white Carrara marble sarcophagus that is covered in bas-relief carvings. Mary Theresa outlived her husband by 9 years. From 1885 until her death, she served as the second Vice Regent for Illinois, which works for the preservation of George Washington's Mount Vernon. She is also buried in the Leiter vault in Rock Creek Cemetery.





## AROUND THE COUNTY TIDBITS

by Shirley Sisk

**Darien** – Miss Mary Bonner of Douglar, Wyoming, came Wednesday to visit her sister, Mrs. Ed Wells. Mrs. Wells and two children met her in Elkhorn.-----

Cyrus Ferow, of Walworth, visited Darien on Thursday of last week for the first time since his return from Everett, Wash., last May.-----Miss Ella Ormsby returned to her home in Trumbull, Neb., Saturday.-----Rev. Kafer, of Allens Grove, and Rev. Nixon, of Darien, exchanged pulpits last Sunday.-----Ernest Willard and wife and two children, of Sycamore, Ill., visited his brother, U. C. Willard, and wife of this place, last week. They returned home on Monday. (The Delavan Republican, Thursday, July 27, 1905)

**Walworth** – Mrs. Spaulding, of Milton Junction, is visiting her cousin, H. M. Coon.-----Mrs. Chas. Cooper, of Linn, spent last week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Fisk.-----Mrs. Nellie Coon, with her son Shirley, came home Saturday after visiting in Chicago and Detroit.-----Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Crandall are the proud parents of a nine pound boy. Lyle Rodman has been selected as his name.-----M. Colburn, with family, has returned home after his engagement as hotel proprietor at Glenwood Springs during the lake season.-----Mr. Jay Humphrey, of Albion, was here one day last week returning the next day accompanied by his son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Will Crandall.-----Our school is patronized by eight tuitioned pupils; namely, Angelo Bently, Jay Hildreth, Verne Maxon, Frank Wheeler, Harriet Pierce and Minnie Huntly in the High School, and Arba Colburn and Mabel Wolf in the Intermediate. (The Enterprise, Delavan, Wis., Sept. 26, 1895)

**North Walworth** – John Siperly will build a new house next season on his premises, for his son Wayland to occupy.-----Everett Davis is getting material in readiness to build himself a new house in the spring, on his farm.-----Dr. Campell came up last week and vaccinated the children in our school, and now the little fellows are carrying their arms in a sling.-----Mrs. R. S. Trumble had the misfortune to run a needle through her finger last week, and she was obliged to go to a surgeon to have it extracted.-----A number of young people from here gave Mr. and Mrs. S. U. Phelps, of East Delavan, a surprise last Saturday evening, and all report having a splendid visit. (The Enterprise, Delavan, Wisconsin, Thursday, February 22, 1894)

**Sharon** – The county fair at Elkhorn, last week, was a grand success. Nearly 3500 entries were made—about 500 more than the year previous. It is estimated 12,000 people were on the grounds, Thursday—the largest turnout in the history of the society.-----J. B. Wise desires all who are owing him on Book Account to settle the same by Note or Cash within the next 10 days, as he must close his business here at once.-----Those wishing photographs, copying and enlarging or anything in the photographic line will please call soon as I intend to close my business in Sharon in sixty days. Do not wait for the sun to shine, as light cloudy weather is the best. Special attention paid to children. Call and see specimens. All work warranted first-class. Respectfully, E. N. Shaw.-----Ike Spencer has quit work at Corliss', and will start a first-class barber shop at Clinton. (The Sharon Reporter, Thursday, October 2, 1879)

## *Program Recaps August-September 2017*



Ice Cream Social Aug 1st



Annual Dinner was held on September 5th at 841 Brew House Restaurant in Whitewater. A 2017 Group Picture was taken. I am sure there were lots of stories to share among these friends, looking forward to 2018.



# In Memoriam

(Sep. 5) **Dorothy J. Hollinger, 87 of Whitewater, died peacefully on Sunday, September 3, 2017 at Fairhaven in Whitewater.**

Dorothy was born on March 3, 1930 in Elkhorn, WI the daughter of Glenn and Bessie (Bullis) Hollinger. Dorothy is a 1948 graduate of the Whitewater Normal School. She was extremely creative, highly intelligent, and an able-bodied person. She worked as a cartographer for many years, using her artistic gifts. She was an avid painter and liked knitting. She was a member of the Unity School of Christianity and enjoyed spending her final years at Fairhaven. Dorothy is survived by: her Sister Dianne Bowker of Whitewater; Nephews Jason (Jaquelyn) Bowker of Richmond, TX, and Jarod (Melissa) Bowker of Fort Atkinson. She is also survived by a number of great nieces and nephews, other relatives and friends. She is preceded in death by her parents. The family would like to express a sincere thank you to the staff of Fairhaven, especial-



ly to Manny, for years of loving care provided.



Note from Karen Helwig:

*This is the obituary for Dorothy Hollinger, who was a member of both societies for many years. Older MCGS members may remember the carfull of Whitewater genealogical society members Dorothy Hollinger, Margaret Piehl, Kathryn Utz, Kay Drexler and I who car-pooled to Milwaukee meetings. (Kay and I still occasionally do)*



**Sent by Rollie Littlewood 9-20 from the BIGWILL Board of Directors**

Memorial Service for Robert Connelly this coming Saturday, September 23rd. Robert Connelly, the BIGWILL Secretary, suffered a stroke on Labor Day and passed away the following Friday. There will be a memorial service for Bob at 5650 Northwest Highway in Crystal Lake, at The Pointe Outreach Center, on Saturday 9/23 at 11:30AM. This is all the detail available at this time.

Pics from Barrett Library Program-August 23rd-  
Information was given by the Library Committee (Diana Bird, Judy Rockwell, Marilyn Traver), and Martha Hay, Chris Brookes and Karen Weston. Invite us again!



- Sent by Karen Memory:
- David Rencher, chief genealogist of FamilySearch, sent me an email with a link to the FamilySearch Facebook page regarding FamilySearch trying to be of assistance to many public, school and academic libraries, courthouses, and archives which may have been severely damaged due to hurricanes Harvey and Irma..
- Family Search wants to help where possible by:
  - 1. Providing digital replacement copies of damaged records if they photographed them in the past.
  - 2. Exploring the possibility of enlisting volunteers and other help to salvage and rescue records damaged or at risk.
  - 3. Offering to digitize genealogically significant records that have not yet been photographed and preserved.
- Please share the information you may have to [preservation@familysearch.org](mailto:preservation@familysearch.org)
- If you want to share the Facebook posting it is accessible at:  
<https://www.facebook.com/familysearch/photos/a.10150621475876039.382295.328754391038/10154836734856039/?type=3&theater>
- You need not be subscribed to a Facebook to access this message.

**Editor Notes**—Have you ever noticed that sometimes in your research you have information that you are excited to share with a family member, only to learn that the good news you share that contradicts a disparaging family story is not welcome news? There is a story in my family that states that because a son-in-law was not in favor with his in-laws, the children of the daughter and the out of favor son-law were not given the same amount in the grandparents will as other grandchildren were. When I was able to locate the said will, I discovered that the family story was not accurate and everyone was given money equally. I thought this would be welcome news only to discover that the relative I presented this info to would not believe me and preferred to believe the false narrative that he had been told. I have always been careful to not share bad news unless I asked first, but was surprised that good news was not welcome! Oops!



Chris Brookes would like to note a special shout out and thank you to Karen Memory for volunteering as a greeter for Irish Fest....

## **BCG Offers Six Free Lectures (Live or by Webinar) on 10-6-17**

Top genealogists Jeanne Bloom, Martha Garrett, LaBrenda Garrett-Nelson, Jill Morelli, Ann Staley, and Tom Jones will present six one-hour lectures at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City Friday, 6 October 2017 between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Mountain U.S. time. The lectures are free and open to the public (registration is not required), and sponsored by the Board for Certification of Genealogists. All will be broadcast online (free registration is required, see below). The Board is an independent certifying body and author of the updated 2014 *Genealogy Standards*.

Times, topics, and speakers:

9:00 a.m. – “Sweden’s Multiple Naming Systems and How They Changed in the 1800s.” Martha Garrett, 10:15 a.m. – “Past Conflict Repatriation: The Role of Genealogists and Methodology in Fulfilling Our Nation’s Promise.” Jeanne Bloom, 11:30 a.m. – “Reasonably Exhaustive Research of African American Families That Came Out of Slavery.” LaBrenda Garrett-Nelson, JD, LL.M., CG 1:30 p.m. – “Using Timelines for Correlation and Analysis.” Jill Morelli, CG 2:45 p.m. – “Land, Licenses, Love Gone Wrong, and Other Assorted Courthouse Records.” Ann Staley, CG, CGL 4:00 p.m. – “Systematically Using Autosomal DNA Test Results to Help Break Through Genealogical Brick Walls.” Tom Jones, PhD, CG, CGL

“Whether you stop in for the lectures or join online, you will learn more about how to apply good methodology to your family research,” said President Jeanne Larzalere Bloom, CG. “The Board for Certification of Genealogists strives to foster public confidence in genealogy by promoting an attainable, uniform standard of competence and ethics. Educating all family historians of every level is part of this mission.”

For questions or more information contact [office@BCGcertification.org](mailto:office@BCGcertification.org).

OCUPAYSHUN---CENCUS TAKER!

by Cimon B. Rite

I am a cencus taker for the City of Bufflow. Our city has groan very fast in resent years and now, in 1865, it has becum a hard and time consum-ing job to count all of the peephill. Thare are not many that can do this werk, as it is nesesarie to have an ejucashun, witch a lot of pursons still do not have. Another atributeart needed for this job is good speling, for meny of the pepill to be counted can hardly speek English, let alon spel there names!

For instens, yestirday I visited the Shoecart family, who only came here from Germany this yeer. They have fifteen children and they can hardly rememburr there names, let alon spel them. The Donnybrooks are another family recently arrived from Germany that could not even spel there name for me. When I put it down, they complaned that it was rong, but I just igknored those poor unejucated persins!

When I picked up the censses forms from Mr. Mury, he emfasized that all of the names should be correctlee speled. Mr. Murry also sais to number them in order - the first family I visit, numbur won, the secont familie, num-burr too and so on. This is very important, but he duz not nee to worry as I am one of the best cencus takers he has. I am also well aquanted with what to do and the rezuns it must be done only won way.

There are a great many diferant places I get to visit. Last week I was at the Fondling Asylum. There are not too meny childran thare wright now as there has been a tifoid epedemec and many of them were strikin with this decease. Some that did servivie are still sic with a conjection of the brane or some other kind of infamation. It is sad to see the little wons so sic. I have also gottin to no many of the store ceepers and have becum partickulerlee good frends with the bakarrey and frute store owners. I have also gotten to no naborhood poleacemen quite well, speshually Patrik Locklin. He has had a lot of problems -- his wife just died, the physsissan said it was peritinis!

It is very pitcheresk along the waterfront and is my favrete place to werk. I get to meat peephill that have traveld all over the world! In the boring houses down here I find salors, marean inspectors, mareniers, and See Captens. Meny of them have told me storys of there trevels and exploits.

Along the rezidentshal streets I get to meet beir-peddlers, tiemsters, and sailesmen as they are pedling there wairs. But, the most interesting places are inside the manufactorys, where the macheanests work and also inside the oile refinerys, where the oil is prossessed.

Altho it may sound like a glamrus job to you, the work is hard enuf. Right now, from beaing out in the wether so much of the tyme, I have a bad kase of Brown Kittis. Besides that, it gets so it costs a few dolars, for all that walking is very hard on sensus takers souls and the shoemaker must be pade! If I could get sertifyd for my penshon I would retir from this peephill countin and help my nefue edit his nuespaper. He needs the help badly for he can't spel worth a damn!

But, now don't think I am not devoted to my job. I relise that these recurds will be very impoortnet to jeneolijests sunday and I am shure they will be empresed with the fine werk I have dun!

---Beverly B. Miller

## PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE BY WCGS

Walworth Co. Probate Record Index - 1848-1939	\$35.00
CD in pdf and searchable	\$25.00 plus \$1.00 s/h
1857 Walworth Co. Atlas - township maps and index	\$16.00
1873 Walworth Co. Atlas - maps & Index (soft cover reprint)	\$20.00
Walworth Co. - Directory of Prairie Farmers & Breeders (soft cover reprint)	\$30.00
1882 Walworth County Index to History Book	\$30.00
1912 Walworth County Index to History Book	\$29.00
Area Research Center UW-Whitewater Resource Guide	\$12.00
Declaration & Naturalization Papers      Vol I \$18.00      Vol 2 & 3 (combined)	\$15.00
Walworth County Pre-1907 Death Index	\$22.00
<b>BLOOMFIELD</b> - Hillside Cemetery- Genoa City	\$23.00
<b>DARIEN</b> - Darien Cemetery	\$22.00
<b>DELAVAN</b> - Delavan Area Cemeteries (Spring Grove, Old Settlers, St. Andrews, Arboretum and some church burials reprint)	\$14.00
East Delavan Union Cemetery	\$25.00
History of Delavan School 1982 - index only	\$18.00
<b>EAST TROY</b> - Oak Ridge Cemetery	\$18.00
St. Peter's Catholic Cemetery	\$25.00
<b>GENEVA</b> - Lake Geneva Area Obituaries (updated through June 30, 2010)	\$25.00
Pioneer Cemetery	\$15.00
Union Cemetery- plus some Geneva/Lyons Townships	\$20.00
<b>LAFAYETTE</b> - White Oak Cemetery	\$ 7.50
Hartwell-Westville-Sugar Creek Lutheran Cemeteries (DVD tombstone pics included)	\$12.00
<b>LAGRANGE</b> -LaGrange Pioneers (reprint of 3600 names, full index)	\$27.00
LaGrange Township Cemeteries	\$10.00
<b>LYONS</b> - Hudson/Lyons (Old Quaker) / Wija Farm Cemeteries                      (DVD tombstone pics included)	\$12.00
St. Joseph & St. Killian Catholic Cemeteries (DVD tombstone pics included)	\$12.00
<b>RICHMOND</b> - Richmond & East Richmond Cemeteries	\$10.00
<b>SHARON</b> - Oakwood	\$15.00
<b>SPRING PRAIRIE</b> - Hickory Grove	\$25.00
German Settlement / Mount Hope / Diener Cemeteries (DVD tombstone pics included)	\$12.00
<b>SUGAR CREEK</b> - Millard Cemetery	\$15.00
Hazel Ridge Cemetery	\$20.00
Mount Pleasant Cemetery (DVD tombstone pics included)	\$15.00
Mount Olivet Catholic Cemetery (DVD tombstone pics included)	\$15.00
<b>TROY</b> - Little Prairie	\$15.00
<b>WALWORTH</b> - Walworth Center (Walworth Village listings)	\$20.00
Brick Church Revised 2007	\$20.00
Cobblestone, WI/Bigfoot, IL (two different cemeteries in one book)	\$20.00
<b>WHITEWATER</b> - St. Patrick's Calvary	\$15.00
Hillside Cemetery	\$25.00
Unknown Burials	\$18.00
Index to the Annals of Whitewater	\$12.00

Shipping and handling as follows: \$6.50 per book

To order these publications, circle the selection(s), make check payable to WCGS and mail to:  
WCGS, PO Box 159, Delavan, WI 53115.

Membership (Jan 1st- Dec 31st) is \$15 individual (\$100 lifetime), \$18.00 family (\$200 lifetime), \$7.50 student

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ SURNAMES \_\_\_\_\_

I do \_\_\_ or do not \_\_\_ give my permission to have my information printed in any WCGS media.

## 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
VICE-PRESIDENT	Karen Weston	9601 N. Kyle Dr..	Whitewater, WI	wcgsvpres@gmail.com
SECRETARY	Marilyn Traver	473 E. Geneva St Lot 10	Elkhorn, WI	msearchin@gmail.com
TREASURER	Michael Hay	455 Fellows Road	Genoa City, WI	wcgstreasurerwi@gmail.com
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:wgsnewsletter@gmail.com">wgsnewsletter@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