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WARREN COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
504 North Buxton Apt. 7
Indianola, Iowa 50125

Vol. 11

JANUARY 1985 NEWSLETTER

Number 1

MEETINGS: Monthly, third Monday at 7:00 PM at the Trinity United Presbyterian Church in Indianola. NEXT MEETING: February 18. Program by Marj Kline on French Research. Roll call will be "Your French Connections". NEWSLETTER: Published each month, except August & December. Queries welcomed. Editor: Molly Bowlin, Route 2, Box 211, Indianola, IA 50125

OFFICERS FOR 1985:

President:	Barbara Rasko	Librarian:	Louise Pilmer
Vice-President:	Charlotte Hardin	Historian:	Lucille Perkins
Secretary:	Enola Disbrow	Parliamentarian:	Twilla Dillard
Treasurer:	Sheryl Ledlie	I.G.S. Liaison:	Pauline Baxendale
Registrar:	Ruth Hall	Editor & Past Pres:	Molly Bowlin

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

By-law review was completed this past year. The revised by-laws were adopted at the November '84 meeting, with the major change being the WCGS club year to a Jan.-Dec. year instead of the past April-March year. Officer and committee duties were re-defined as were the purposes and objectives of the club. Copies of the revised by-laws are available at our regular meetings.

Please check the final page of this newsletter for our 1985 membership registration form. Current members have paid through March of this year with dues for the remaining April - December being due at this time. These dues have been pro-rated. New members will pay the regular amount for the full Jan-Dec year. Family surnames are also being requested at this time for our new WCGS Surname Index. We would appreciate everyone taking a few minutes to list your family surnames. Hope we have all had the good fortune to add a few names since the last index was completed!! CHECK BACK PAGE FOR REGISTRATION FORM!!!

NOTE ON YOUR CALENDAR:

The Third Annual Genealogical Conference sponsored by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will be held Friday evening and all day Saturday, April 12 & 13. Admission of \$10.00 includes luncheon on Saturday and a conference report reviewing most of the presentations. For further info: Genealogy Library, Box 7660, Des Moines, IA 50322

QUERY:

RENFRO Need information on parents of Lorenzo Dow Renfro, b-May 1827, Madison, IL.
HALL Parents believed to be William Renfro & Elizabeth Hall. Wm. H. H. and
ACKLEY Lorenzo Dow Renfro enlisted in 16th Inf., Co. F., same date, showing
GRIFFIN Indianola as their residence. Lorenzo married 1-Leafy Ann Ackley, 1848, IA,
and 2-Julia Ann Griffin, 1854, IN. He died 1902 in Wauwatosa, WI.
Robert Renfro, 2550 E. Beardsley Rd #57 Phoenix, AZ, 85024

A big welcome to Robert Renfro, our newest member. Hope you have good luck with your family search!!!

PROGRESS REPORT ON BIRTH RECORDS BOOK:

Typing of the birth information portion of "Birth Records of Warren County Iowa, Through 1920" was completed this month. Most of this has been proofed. Typing of the index has started. A number of birth records was received from the public and these are being processed to include in the book. Thanks to everyone for taking time to get these records to us! Typing should be completed and corrections made sometime in February. Advertising will begin soon.

ARCHIVES BILL SIGNED:

On 19 October the President signed into law S. 905, the National Archives and Records Administration Act of 1984.

Under this law, on 1 April 1985 the National Archives and Records Administration will be established as an independent agency within the Executive Branch. The agency will be headed by the Archivist of the United States, who will be appointed by the President, with the advice and consent of the Senate.

On signing the bill, the President said: "The public papers and other materials that the Archives safeguards are precious and irreplaceable national treasures, and the agency that looks after the historical records of the Federal government should be accorded a status that is commensurate with its important responsibilities. Independence for the Archives this year, in which we are commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of its creation, is a particularly fitting step, both practical and symbolic, in achieving that important goal." The purpose of S. 905 is to extend independence to an agency that many believe has suffered as a result of its placement with the General Services Administration in 1949.

A GERMAN - AMERICAN RESEARCH AND DOCUMENTATION CENTER is being established at the University of Wisconsin at Madison. Research material in the form of books, official documents, diaries and specimens of immigrant arts and crafts will be placed in the Center collection. The Center will be set up to assist researchers in tracing their family roots in Germanic Countries of Europe. For information on progress and acquisitions, contact THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN FOUNDATION, 702 Longdon St., Madison, WI 53706. (Dec, IGS newsletter)

THE WISCONSIN STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY has sponsored the PIONEER FAMILY CERTIFICATE project since 1973. This project attempts to document as many of the 305,000 persons who settled there prior to 1850 as possible, by recognizing the often unique but unrecognized contributions made by these early settlers to the history of the state. An attractive certificate suitable for framing can be issued to any proven descendant whether or not they are currently residing in Wisconsin. For an application blank, send SASE to Wisconsin State Genealogical Society, Box 5106, Madison, WI 53705-0106 (Dec-IGS newsletter)

NEW GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH CENTER IN QUEBEC, CANADA: For those having research problems in the province of Quebec. For information about search fees and other details, send SASE to Institut de Recherches Les Sources Du Passe Enr., B. P. 1293, Trois-Rivieres, Quebec, Canada G9A 5L2 (Dec, IGS Newsletter)

MARION COUNTY, IOWA Fall '84 newsletter contains a number of early birth records for that county. Address: MCCS, Box 385, Knoxville, IA, 50138. Local members may check our newsletter for file if interested.

WAYNE COUNTY, IOWA birth records are being published in their Oct. '83 & '84 issues of their newsletter.

The cheapest toy, which even a child can operate is called a grandparent. From the Iowa City Genealogical Soc. VIA Wayne County Gene News. Oct. '84

FEDERATION OF GENEALOGICAL SOCIETIES 1985 CONVENTION will be held Aug 15-17 1985 in downtown Kansas City, MO. For registration and travel information write to F.G.S. '85 Convention, P.O. Box 2307, Olathe, KS, 66061. Over 100 display booths available.

CENTENNIAL OR OLD SETTLERS CELEBRATION COMING UP? Need costumes? We've received a catalog from Amazon Drygoods, 2218 E. 11th St., Davenport, IA 52803, which carries a number of clothing patterns from the 19th century as well as fabric, notions, books music arrangements and many misc. items for the '19th Century Impression'. A Victorian marriage certificate reproduction with space for names and dates is available for \$3.50, 8x10, ready to frame. Fun gift for a bridal shower. Catalog is available at the above address for \$2.00, or ask to see our copy.

NOTES BY ENOLA DISBROW ON RESEARCHING IN SWEDEN, FROM HER VERY INFORMATIVE AND
INSPIRING TALK AT OUR NOVEMBER 1984 MEETING. THANK YOU ENOLA.

RESEARCH IN SWEDEN

To do Swedish genealogical research, you must (1) understand their system of names. The father's first name becomes the first part of the child's last name, i.e., Hans Jacobsson's daughter will be - Hansdotter; his son will be - Hansson. If there are too many Hanssons so it creates problems, as in the armed services, the name can be changed and any name can be chosen.

(2) Take your pedigree charts with you to Swedish Archives and Churches. You must have some dates that are definite. Even though there is a language barrier, pedigree charts are understood.

(3) Know the church parish for each person you are researching. Every Swed is born a Lutheran and remains a Lutheran unless a preference is declared for another denomination. Since 1686 parish priests have always kept the vital records. The pre-1870 records are kept in provincial archives. Records of later years are still in the Churches. Churches and the walled in 'church gardens' (cemeteries) are beautifully maintained by the government. 1% of everyone's income tax goes to the church. Picture postcards and brochures are available to buy in each Church.

(4) If your relative lived on a farm, search for the name of that farm. It will sound like part of an address. The farm name will not have changed through the years.

The Anderson Bookstore in Lindsborg, KS, sells very detailed maps on sections of land showing the names of these farms. Buy these maps in the U.S. and take them with you to Sweden.

(5) Know which provincial archives you need to visit. Write ahead to determine the hours and days they are open.

(6) Purchase the book 'Cradled in Sweden' from Everton Publishers and study it well before your trip. This book will help you determine parishes and archives.

Some help may be obtained from Scandinavian American Societies. There are several large offices in the U.S.

If you can't make the trip to Sweden, you can write to the proper archive, but free information is no longer available.

Information is available at Salt Lake but it will be in Swedish, and you may have great difficulty deciphering the old script. Translators are hard to find. Making the trip to Sweden to walk the paths ancestors walked, and trying to determine why they left, adds much more interest and understanding to the study.

(7) Allow plenty of time. The Archives are regional, there are many miles between and short stops are not satisfying.

(8) Establish contacts with as many relatives in Sweden as possible. Give them definite dates of your plans. Write early enough to give time for a reply.

(9) It will probably be necessary to rent a car to make the best use of your time and to reach more areas.

(10) Go to the proper provincial archives if you need more information. A researcher will help you. It is also advisable to hire a researcher recommended by the archives to do further research for you. He will send you detailed reports. The researcher is paid in advance and works that number of hours, or until he reaches a dead end, in which case money is refunded to you.

Reading the language is a barrier; spoken communication is no problem. Sign language works well in Sweden as in other parts of the world.

I highly recommend going to Sweden to see the birthplaces, the relatives, the way of life, the results of the economical system, the way genealogical records are kept, etc. Your ancestors will seem very real to you and the relatives you meet will be very glad you cared enough to make the trip.

P.S. from Enola: Just before Christmas, she received a chart with 23 more family names with dates and places from her researcher in Sweden. Well worth his \$50. research fee!

WCGS ACTIVITIES IN 1984

Copying, indexing, and alphabetizing the birth records 1880 through 1920 was completed. typing of the Birth Records book was started this spring.

Ads were placed in "Meyers Genealogical Society's in the USA and Canada", Genealogical Helper, and "Genealogical and Historical Books in Print" for the birth book.

A library workshop was held in April at the home of Louise Pilmer. Members were invited to look over the WCGS library material.

The annual trip to Iowa City Historical Library was in April. Those attending were Barb Raske, Charlotte Hardin, Lucille Perkins, Judy Holland and Molly Bowlin.

Several members visited the museum in Corydon with Willa Grissom in May.

An 'unusual story' by Les Swartzlander appeared in the IGS newsletter.

Bob Knowler, representative for National Sharegraphics, Inc., met with the group in April to talk about the possibility of a new Warren County History.

A number of Warren county atlases were zeroxed for the WCGS library, including the 1902-03 and CA 1920 atlases for Warren county and the 1933 Madison county atlas.

A pot luck supper and workshop were held in June, with work on the obituary file continuing.

Members worked at the IGS library on a regular basis.

The 1900 and 1910 Warren county census records were purchased for future copying and publishing.

A large number of obits were received from Ethel Letz for our growing file.

Maude Wilkins has been clipping obits from the Indianola paper for our file, and Marj Kline has been clipping Warren county related obits from the DM paper for us.

The Truro Centennial book was purchased for our library.

A small showcase was purchased from Marj Kline for use at the county fair.

The Genealogy exhibit at the fair was very successful, with an interesting variety of exhibits from our members and from other Warren county residents.

"A Guide to Researching in the National Archives" was purchased in memory of Charlotte Wilder, clerk of court for Warren county, who passed away this year.

Ten dollars was donated to the IGS computer fund.

An old family Bible was received by WCGS during the fair. It contains family records from the Porch, Latchem and Tilford families.

The Madison County History was ordered. This is a new publication.

Articles requesting old birth records from the public appeared in the Indianola newspaper. These records will be included in the up-coming book.

Sheryl Ledlie began typing address labels for the birth book advertising.

A showcase and storage unit was donated by Larry Bowlin for use at the fair.

Enola Disbrow journeyed to Sweden in August to find her Roots!

WCGS Board met with Mr. Ginter from the library to discuss placement of our library material in the new genealogy section of the Indianola library.

Our copy of "Meyers Directory of Genealogical Society's in the USA and Canada" was received.

1985 OFFICERS

President:
 Barbara Rasko 961-6758
 Vice-President:
 Charlotte Hardin 961-8908
 Secretary:
 Enola Disbrow 961-4103
 Treasurer:
 Sheryl Ledlie 287-1675
 Registrar:
 Ruth Hall 961-4879
 Editor:
 Molly Bowlin 961-2797
 Librarian:
 Louise Pilmer 961-4805
 Historian:
 Lucille Perkins 961-3965
 Parliamentarian:
 Twilla Dillard 961-3065
 I.G.S. Liaison:
 Pauline Baxendale 961-2882
 Past President:
 Molly Bowlin 961-2797

COMMITTEES

PUBLISHING COMMITTEE:
 Molly Bowlin, Editor*
 Louise Pilmer Charlotte Hardin

PROGRAM COMMITTEE:
 Charlotte Hardin* Marieta Grissom
 Twilla Dillard Ruth Henry
 Edna VanSyoc

LIBRARY COMMITTEE:
 Louise Pilmer* Mary Smart
 Ruth Hall Enola Disbrow

SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE:
 Sheryl Ledlie* Peg Hutchison
 Willa Jean Grissom Twilla Dillard
 Marjorie Kline Les Swartslander

BIRTH RECORDS COMMITTEE:
 Louise Pilmer* Maude Wilkins*
 Pauline Baxendale Barb Rasko

ADVERTISING COMMITTEE:
 Twilla Dillard* Marieta Grissom
 Maude Wilkins Sheryl Ledlie
 Charlotte Hardin

COUNTY FAIR SUPERINTENDENTS:
 Sheryl Ledlie Molly Bowlin

FAMILY RECORDS AND SURNAME COMMITTEE:
 Ruth Hall* Maude Wilkins
 Edna Van Syoc

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE:
 Thelma Pehrson* Joanne Amos
 Lucille Perkins Pauline Baxendale

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:
 Willa Jean Grissom* Louise Pilmer
 Barbara Rasko Molly Bowlin

COUNTY FAIR STEERING COMMITTEE:
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 Twilla Dillard Mary Smart

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE:
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PRINTER:
 Barbara Rasko

TELEPHONE COMMITTEE:
 Lucille Perkins* Bertine Davis
 Helen Lester Beulah Wilson
 Vivian Fackler Doris Lawson
 Ruth Henry Pauline Baxendale

NEWSLETTER FILE: Ruth Hall

You may cut this page into quarters
 and add it to your club program book
 for 1985.

If you are unable to serve on the
 committee named, please let Barb
 know as soon as possible so a replace-
 ment may be made.

WARREN COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

1985

Following by-law revision, our membership year has been changed from an April through March year to a January through December year. Our current members dues are paid through March 1985. To cover the April through December period, dues for current members will be pro-rated.

	Current Single Membership:	Now paid through March April - December is due	\$3.75 []
C	Current Family Membership:	Now paid through March April - December is due	\$5.63 []
	NEW Single Membership:	Regular Dues Jan-Dec	\$5.00 []
	NEW Family Membership:	Regular Dues Jan-Dec	\$7.50 []

DUES FOR THE REMINDER OF THE 1985 YEAR ARE DUE AT THIS TIME. Our registrar is Ruth Hall, 705 West Third, Indianola, IA 50125. The registration form and dues may be sent directly to her or may be given to her at our regular meeting.

In the future, dues will be payable September 1 through October 31 for the up-coming year. This will allow the program committee time to include all members in the program book which will be distributed at the January meeting.

NEW SURNAME INDEX FOR 1985

WCGS will be preparing a new surname index for 1985 and would like to include your family surnames! There is no limit to the number of names you may submit. Even if you have submitted names for past years, we hope you will take a few minutes to re-list your family surnames so we can have a correct and up to date index for 1985. You have no doubt added a few names since our last index was done!

MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION FORM:

NAME.PHONE.

ADDRESS

CITY.STATE.ZIP

Amount of dues _____

THANK YOU

+

I am working on the following surnames: (Example: Smith, Brown, Jones, Williams, etc.

BY- LAW REVISIONS:

The second reading of the by-law revisions will be made at the November 1984 meeting of the WCGS.

The main revision in the by-laws concerns our club year. It will be changed from the old April - March year to the more common January - December year.

The Annual meeting and election of officers will be held in November. Dues will be payable on September 1 and will be delinquent October 31. These dates will allow program committee time to have an up-to-date membership list in the club program book which will be distributed at the January meeting.

Dues for the remainder of the 1985 year will be pro-rated. CURRENT members will owe \$3.75 for a single membership to cover May through December. CURRENT family memberships will be \$3.63 to cover the same time period. NEW memberships will cover January - December and will remain \$5.00 for single and \$7.50 for a family membership.

A REGISTRATION FORM will be included in the January newsletter for you to fill out and return to our registrar, Ruth Hall. This will also ask for the surnames on which you are working to be used in the 1985 Surname Index for our club. Dues for the remainder of the 1985 year will be due with this registration form.

The revised by-laws will further explain the duties of the officers and the various committees.

WE will continue to use the 84-85 program book since it carries the program through August. An up-date page will be included in the January newsletter listing the new officers, committees and additional membership for the 1985 year.

We hope this revision is not too much of an inconvenience to you all. We feel it will simplify procedures in the future.

Thank YOU, Molly

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT:

The following were nominated for office for the 1985 year:

President	Barbara Rasko	Editor	Molly Bowlin
Vice-President	Charlotte Wardin	Librarian	Louise Pilmer
Secretary	Enola Disbrow	Historian	Lucille Perkins
Treasurer	Sheryl Heddie	Parliamentarian	
Registrar	Ruth Hall	I. C. S. Liaison	

FALL WORKSHOP:

The Annual Genealogical Workshop for beginners was held Oct 30 and Nov 1 at the Presbyterian Church. Those attending were: Chris Hirsch, Gladys Pettengill, Trudy Graca, Linda Brown, Jane Godwin of Indianola, and Lyneth and Chrystal Thomason of Hartford. Peggy Kay of Indianola was also registered and received the packet of genealogical material. Barbara Rasko, Twilla Dillard and Molly Bowlin from WCGS were the instructors. Basic resources were discussed at the first session, with actual research and question and answer time at the second session.

NEW INDIANOLA LIBRARY:

The WCGS Board met with Charles Ginter from the Indianola Public library on Thursday, Nov 8 to discuss the Genealogy Section of the new library. Construction is expected to be completed at the end of January, with occupation of the building early in April. A meeting room to accommodate 150 persons will be available for civic groups. The WCGS material will be housed on secured shelving and will be available for reference work within the library.

BIRTH RECORDS BOOK REPORT:

It is not too late to get your early birth records in the book!! Please check your old obituaries and family records. Turn in to Maude Wilkins by December 1.

AS of November 16, 152 pages have been typed, taking the book up through the Mc's. Proofing is underway. If you can help, please let Maude or Molly know.

Due to her busy schedule, our original typist has had to give up work on the project. Molly Bowlin is now doing the typing, and Maude Wilkins, Lucille Perkins, Enola Disbrow and Ruth Hall have been proofing.