



SOUTHPORT ECHO

Volume 41 Issue 3

March 2013

General Meetings

are on the second Monday of the month, September through June.

*6:30 Meeting
7:00 Program*

Next Meeting is

*March 11, 2013
at Gateway Technical College
Madigrano Auditorium
3520 30th Avenue
Kenosha WI*

TRUTH OR FICTION?

Have some of your family members ever told stories about some incident that happened to one of your family members or spoke of a family legend who you are supposed to be related to. I have a few on my husband's side he is supposed to be related to Commodore Perry, who went to the South Pole, a distant relative of Jessie James and also the founder of McMaster University in Canada. My great-grandmother came from a castle in Ireland (did she work there or live there- unknown). These are nice stories/legends but I have yet to come close to proving any of them.

The thing is to take heed when one of your relatives starts telling any of these kinds of stories. They are not only enjoyable to listen to but they probably have some nuggets of truth and/or even many other clues or facts in them. The hard part is to sort out which is truth and which is not. So listen very closely and even take notes if you can.

The only way for a good genealogist is to check into each fact that was present and then try to prove it. Keep in mind that you should not try to go from Commodore Perry forward, but from your current relative back to Commodore Perry.

A good genealogical practice requires that we admit fiction exists. But the next step for a respectable genealogist is to separate fact from creative imaginations. Before we discard these stories altogether though, we need to mine them for those golden nuggets of truth.



DUES

Annual dues remain at \$10.00 but come due in September. If not paid by October 31st then a late charge of \$2.00 will be assessed. Dues for new members joining later in the year will be pro-rated.

SUNSHINE'S CORNER by Claudia Schiller

Spreading sunshine to members:

☺ **Joyce March who is still recovering.**

Cards can be sent to:
Joyce March c/o St Francis Terrace
Room 112-1
3200 S. 20th Street
Milwaukee WI 53215-4442

Welcome to all our new members:

🍁 For anyone who does not have access to the internet get on our phone tree list to be contacted about important information or if a card needs to be sent: Please call Claudia Schiller at 262-654-4552

Civil War



- 1) National Archives -- <http://www.archives.gov/forms/>
- 2) Wisconsin History Society --
<http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/roster/search.asp>
- 3) Civil War Service Records Research Guide --
<http://www.genealogybranches.com/civilwar/servicerecords.html>
- 4)) EXPLORING CIVIL WAR WISCONSIN--a survival guide for researchers by
Brett Barker. Pub: Wisconsin Historical Society Press 2003
- 5) National Park Service: Soldiers and Sailors Database --
<http://www.nps.gov/civilwar/soldiers-and-sailors-database.htm>
- 6) Ancestry.com Stories of the Blue and the Gray --
<http://www.ancestry.com/civilwar>
- 7) The Civil War Archives --
<http://www.civilwararchive.com/unionwi.htm>
- 8) National Archives Veterans Service Records --
<http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/pre-ww-1-records.html>
- 9) The Badax Tigers: From Shiloh to the Surrender with the 18th Wisconsin Volunteers Edited by Thomas P. Nanzig. Pub: Rowman & Littlefield publisher, Inc. 2002
- 10) The Marching Twelfth: The story of the Twelfth Wisconsin Infantry Regiment as told by the Men who served in it Edited by Peggy M Singer
- 11) Bits of Blue and Gray --
<http://www.bitsofblueandgray.com/>



REVIEW OF LAST PRESENTER

By Paula Frye



“The Mystery of Sourcing” presented by Trisha McMaster

Trisha, our editor and speaker this month, did another stellar talk on how to source your findings. This is a problem for all of us who have done this for a while but never learned how to do it correctly. Sourcing is a way of keeping track of where you found the facts that you used. A **Fact** can be a person, a name, a date, an accomplishment, occupation, etc. Where the fact is found is your **Source**. This can be a document like a birth certificate, a census record, pages in a book, etc. However, this should be a clear and accurate description (**Citation**). A floral decorated printed with blanks handwritten in or a modern computer produced copy would be ways to describe the Birth Certificate that you took the information from. Make sure when you enter your found fact to also include the source and include the Repository for the fact. A **Repository** is the actual location where the document is located at. This can be a library, a church, or even your files. When you find a fact on the internet, the internet site is a source but NOT the repository. The location is where the original is and you may find it difficult to find that repository but it is worth the search. Mrs. McMasters’ showed how to create repositories in both the Personal Ancestry File (PAF) and the Family Tree Maker (FTM).

She gives two (2) rules for sourcing:

Rule #1 -- Work from general to specific

- A. Author--who wrote the book, gave the interview or penned the letter
- B. Title of the item (e.g. article, periodical)
- C. Publication details
 - 1. Place & date of publication, Written (Place, Publisher, Date)
 - 2. Volume, Issue & Page numbers for periodicals
 - 3. Series & Roll or item number for microfilm
- D. D. Where you found it -- Repository name & location, Website name & URL, Cemetery name & location, etc.
- E. Specific details -- page number, entry number & date, date you visited a Website, etc.

Rule #2--Make a citation for what you see ONLY

- A. When a copied source is used instead of the real thing, take care to cite the index, database or book that you used, and NOT the actual source from which the copied source was created. This is because copied sources can be several steps removed from the original, leaving a great deal of room for errors like:
 - 1. Errors in handwriting interpretation
 - 2. Microfilm viewing errors (out of focus, back side bleeding through, etc.)
 - 3. Transcription errors (skipping lines, transposing numbers, etc.)
 - 4. Typing errors, etc.
- B. She also mentioned that even if a cousin tells you that they found such and such a name in a birth certificate, you should cite the researcher as the source of information (noting where they found the information as well). You can only correctly cite the birth certificate if you have [physically viewed it].
- C. Original Sources
--Records that contain written, oral or visual information. Are not derived, copied, abstracted, transcribed or summarized from other record
Derivative Sources
--Information that has been derived from other existing sources. Copied, Transcribed, or Summarized.
Original Fact usually carries more credence than a derived fact

Remember to source **EVERYTHING** you find. Just in case you want to find it again.

INFO BITS AND BITES

BRITISH NEWSPAPERS

On February 13, 2013 Findmypast.com.au announced that they have made an addition of more than 6 million pages from British newspapers. These include original images which have been added to its already extensive historical records collection. The titles are local and regional from England, Scotland and Wales spanning the years of 1700 to 1950 including almost 200 titles. These British newspapers are part of an exclusive partnership with the [British Library](#) to digitize over the next 10 years of almost 40 million pages. These newspapers are captivating and contain a vast variety of information about Australia and New Zealand.

DNA DISCOUNTS

[MyHeritage](#) has launched a special campaign offering deep discounts on DNA tests to mark the first anniversary of the availability of DNA tests on MyHeritage. These tests are offered in partnership with Family Tree DNA. This is part of a giant DNA sale organized by MyHeritage simultaneously across all its websites [MyHeritage.com](#), [Geni.com](#) and [WorldVitalRecords.com](#).

STUDENT DISCOUNTS

On February 13, 2013 the National Genealogical Society announced that qualifying students may register for discounted prices of nearly 75% off regular registration rates if they wish to attend the 2013 NGS Family History Conference, which is being held May 8-11, 2013 in Las Vegas, Nevada. This discount is to encourage qualifying students to see how they might incorporate genealogical methods into their research and how they may, in turn, apply knowledge from their fields to genealogy. Student Registration Form can be downloaded from the NGS website at http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/galleries/newgallery/2013_Student_Registration_Form.pdf

TIP OF THE DAY

By Michael John Neill



GENEALOGY TIP OF THE DAY

by: Michael John Neill

Is There a Form They Actually Filled Out Themselves?

Some records we use were not filled out by our ancestors--someone else, perhaps with less knowledge answered the questions. My big break on my wife's grandmother came not from her death certificate, which was filled out by her children, but instead her SS-5 form. The grandmother filled out that form herself in the 1960s and gave a different name for her father than what her children had put on her death certificate thirty years later.

If possible, find something the person actually provided information on. It may be different!

CEMETERY PROJECT UPDATE

If you have loved ones in a Kenosha County cemetery and have taken a photograph of the tombstone, please share them with us. We would love to include them in our project. We would need to know the cemetery name, and what section they are in if possible. Any members of our group that has photos for our Cemetery Project, please bring them on a CD or Flash drive to the next meeting. Please don't crop or tag your photos as we will be following a set format for all the pictures. I will bring my laptop computer and download them.

Judy Uelmen

FINDING WISCONSIN CIVIL WAR UNION SOLDIERS ON MILITARY ROSTER Part 1 OF 4 on Civil War

{For the websites mention you will find their URLs in the WebSites section of the Newsletter}

Do you have male ancestors living in the United States about 1860? Could they have fought or participated in the Civil War? Good chance they did unless too young, old, infirmed, moneyed or perhaps a consciences objector. Ages could vary from a young nine year-old drummer boy to men as old as 60's to 70's doing the cooking, mule skimmers and other non-combat tasks. **Military Rosters:**The easiest way to find your Wisconsin Veteran is to go to the Wisconsin History Society website { <http://www.wisconsinhistory.org> } Then click Genealogy on the right and go down the list on the left and find Roster of Wisconsin Volunteers, War of the Rebellion 1861-1865, click on it. Then click Search the Roster?.

At this site there are boxes for surname and given name. Put the surname in, don't worry about the given name. That is, unless your ancestor has a very common surname then the given name will help to narrow the field. Now moved to the list for the beginning of the first letter of the surname such as for Beighley, I was taken to the Letter B list. The list is alphabetical so just go down it. But be aware that on the list there may be many misspellings of surnames. Of my three (3) gggrandfathers that fought in the Civil war only one had the accurate name on the roster. Two of my gggrandfathers had their surnames misspelled and gggranddad Beighley even had his first name slaughtered. But what can be worse is when the name is common and is still listed wrong. Also be aware if the surname can begin with different letter. The program usually takes you to the correct page but not always, especially when the name is different than the way it was put in. I had to go through 18 pages before finding gggranddad Tawalt Beighley and his surname was spelled on the roster as Beighl. Just below him is his brother John whose surname was spelled correctly. Tawalt Beighley listed as a musician was a fifer.

(John David Beighley drowned on 15 Dec 1862 at Black River Bridge, MS.)

Beighl, Tawalt R.	Musician.....	H	12th	..
Beighley, John D.	Private.....	D	11th	..

If you can't find your ancestor on hthis list, go back to the search page and try a different spelling or starting with a different letter that may sound or appear like the first letter of his surname. My gggranddad Coher's name was spelled Koher on the roster and elsewhere as Kocher. But if spelled differently, compare facts to be sure that this is the correct individual. Or if you have an idea of what regiment or company he was in, go below the boxes for surname and given name where there is a box for regiment and company. If you have heard that your ancestor was in any particular regiment, here is where to find the list of this regiments, you will be able to look through the various companies, one at a time to find him. If you heard he was in a certain company but never heard what regiment you can go here and search for that company. D in each of Wisconsin's regiments. Private Beighl was in the 12th regiment company H.

(note misspelling of his first name)

Beighl, Fawalt R|Sylvan.....|Sept. 23, '61..|From Co. I; Vet., Musician; M. O. July 16, '65.

1885, 1895 & 1905 Veterans Census:

The state of Wisconsin did a veterans census in 1895 and 1905 with the 1895 census more common. Even if your ancestor fought for a different state, if living in Wisconsin at the time of the census, he will appear on this list.

REFERENCES:

- 1) Wisconsin History Society -- <http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/roster/search.asp>
- 2) Civil War Service Records Research Guide -- <http://www.genealogybranches.com/civilwar/servicerecords.html>
- 3) EXPLORING CIVIL WAR WISCONSIN--a survival guide for researchers by Brett Barker. Pub: Wisconsin Historical Society Press 2003



ELECTED OFFICERS

President	Judy Uelmen
Vice President	Claudia Schiller
Treasurer	Don Kueny
Secretary	Maryann Cole

PERMANENT OFFICERS

Corresponding Secretary	Judy Uelmen
Newsletter Editor	Trisha McMaster
Program Line-up	Judy Uelmen

APPOINTED OFFICERS

Digital Equipment Operator	Don Kueny
Display Case Chairperson	Suzanne Dibble
Hospitality	Sharon Worm
Librarian	Suzanne Dibble
Publicity	Judy Reynolds
Sunshine Committee	Claudia Schiller
Surname Book Chairperson	Paula Frye
Webmaster	Jeff Huff

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