



# Southport Echo

**MAY 2012**

A Publication of Kenosha County Genealogy Society, Est. 1972  
Volume 40 Number 5  
www.kengensoc.com

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## Spreading Sunshine to Members:

- ☞ Sharon Madsen who's husband passed away
- ☞ Joyce March who is still recovering.

Cards can be sent to:

Joyce March c/o St Francis Terrace  
Room 112-1  
3200 S. 20<sup>th</sup> Street  
Milwaukee WI 53215-4442



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

## MEETING TIME / PLACE

General Meeting Times  
Second Monday of the month  
(No meeting in Jul. Aug. or Dec.)  
6:30 PM Social  
7:00 PM Meeting/Program  
Gateway Technical College  
3520 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Madrigrano Auditorium

## NEXT PROGRAM

**Monday May 14, 2012**  
Our speaker will be  
Ginger Frere from  
Newberry Library in  
Chicago in the  
Madrigrano Auditorium

## HELP WANTED

**ACTIVITIES CHAIRPERSON:** Takes care of the planning for trips, as Kathy has resigned due to other commitments. Any volunteers please contact Tom Nielsen.

## DUES

A change in our by-laws was approved at the June meeting, aligning the dues year with our fiscal year which starts September 1st. 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.



## Speaker of the Month

### Gary Van Koningsveld from Bosman Monuments

By Trisha McMaster & Paula Frye

Monuments, Grave Markers, Headstones; they're all the same as some would say but others could tell you the difference. Gary knows how to tell the difference and gave an excellent talk on them. Gary has been working for Bosman Monuments for 20 years and in the business for some 30 years. He was very curious as to how the two worlds of headstones and genealogy would collide. He began explaining that Old World cemeteries can be very different from what we think of today. In Europe there is not as much land as we have here so many people were buried for only 20 years or so then the plot was either renewed or the bones were dug up and a new person was buried there. Whereas in America there was plenty of land so individual plots in cemeteries have lasted for years. Many of our small cemeteries that we possess in this country now, started out as the back forty of someone's field. Usually it was an unusable spot for plowing because of it being too swampy, too much stone so when grandma passed away they buried her out there and then grandpa got added and then the neighbors in-laws and so on and so forth until a small cemetery was started.

Gary went on to explain the evolution of markers. First we had a wooden cross which will last about 10 to 15 years before the weather and other conditions destroyed the wood. Then a soft stone usually made from marble or slate was used and these last about 80 years or so and were used up to the 1940's. In about 1910-1920, granite or bronze came into use for markers and lasts indefinitely. The bronze gets a green patina which should be left on as it helps protect the marker from the elements. The U.S. government will provide all late military personnel with a free bronze marker. It typically has their name, rank, dates and sometimes an emblem from their branch of service or particular regiment. These are mounted on a granite base.

Gary told us to not go by the spelling of our forefather's names on many markers. Often times the individuals who did the chiseling were just a local who could spell and chisel and many did not spell that well. Many of the misspelling of names can be contributed to the fact that the person doing the chiseling didn't know the correct spelling of the name or left off part of it, as there was no room present or may have even chipped an extra piece out by mistake. Frequently only the date of death was put on a stone as this was a known fact. Sometimes you will find the age of a person listed as 79 years and 4 months. Frequently people themselves were not sure of their exact date of birth even.

Rubbing: Many people use butcher paper, tape it to the stone with duck tape and then rub a black crayon over it. If you do, be sure to rub in more than one direction so you pick up everything. The monument companies used dirt on a piece of leather over butcher paper to do the rubbings but now they use what Gary referred to as *Magic paper*. In contacting Bosman Monuments was informed that the product is called *carboff* paper and purchase is available at Wenzco Supplies or Granite City Tool or can purchase through Bosman Monuments. Carboff paper is dark blue on one side and has chalk on the other side. Once you rub over it you get a very good impression. Before doing any kind of a rubbing it was suggest you check with the cemetery to see if they allow it and if you are not the owner of the marker you might want to check with a direct descendant first, also.

It was not recommended that you use shaving cream to get a better impression of the writing on a marker as this can do permanent damage to the marker. If you wish to clean a marker do not use anything with an oil base, as these stones are porous and this will leave marks. Gary recommends that you use either Dawn or Lemon Fresh Joy dishwashing detergent plus warm (not cold or hot) water and then scrub with a soft toothbrush. You may have to do this for a while and it will take a little elbow grease but comes out very nice. Another recommendation from the audience was to shine a bright light across the marker to cause shadowing to make the inscription more readable when photographing. Gary said he felt the best for cleaning and wetting the stone for better visual effect is Windex.

The newer used Black Stone are found to be very reflective. Often when taking a picture, a reflection of all or part of the photographer or environment is seen. Gary suggested taking a black cloth to lie out on the grass to block other objects that may be reflected. Another way is to stand farther back from the stone and use the zoom on the camera.

Gary can be reached at: [www.bosmenmonuments.com](http://www.bosmenmonuments.com) On-line we found another rubbing paper that could be used. This paper is "Aqaba" Brand Rubbing Paper: White "Aqaba" rubbing paper measuring 24 by 36 inches is a high strength, multi-purpose, Archival quality paper. Its uniform surface is Superior for Gravestone Rubbing, Block prints, Origami and other Art projects. It's malleable and does not easily tear when wrapped around a gravestone. Rubbing paper in various colors can also be found on the net at [funstuffforgenealogist.com](http://funstuffforgenealogist.com) or other web site for minimum cost.

I came across a site that has an article on tombstones and thought that anyone who enjoyed Gary's presentation might also be interested in reading this article. Below is the link.

<http://www.familytreemagazine.com/article/Tombstone-Tales?>



## MEMBER PROFILE

**Name:** Dawn Jurgens

**A tiny bit about yourself:**

I have worked at SUPERVALU for 21 years as a Computer Operator. I have one son attending CLC and a daughter at UW Green Bay

**How long have you been a member of KCGS?**

Since September

**What first got you interested in genealogy?**

My grandmother passed on some information to me.

**What is the most interesting or unusual fact you have found so far in you research?**

My Great Uncle was a card dealer for Al Capone

**What is your favorite web site besides**

**Ancestry.com?** FamilySearch.com

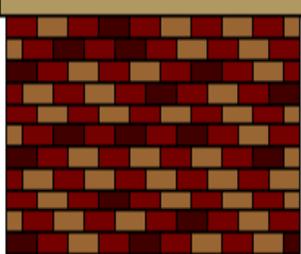
**Which committees for KCGS have you volunteered to serve on for far?** None yet

## NEWS ON ANCESTRY.COM

Subscription genealogy site Ancestry.com just announced it has entered into an agreement to acquire competitor Archives.com for approximately \$100 million in cash and assumed liabilities. Archives.com is owned and operated by Inflection LLC, a Silicon Valley-based technology company.

Originally the site was called Genealogy archives but in January of 2010 when it changed the name to Archives.com it has grown to more then 380,000 paying subscribers who pay approximately \$39.95 a year. The site offers access to more than 2.1 billion historical records, including birth records, obituaries, immigration and passenger lists, historical newspapers, and US and UK censuses.

### The Brick Wall

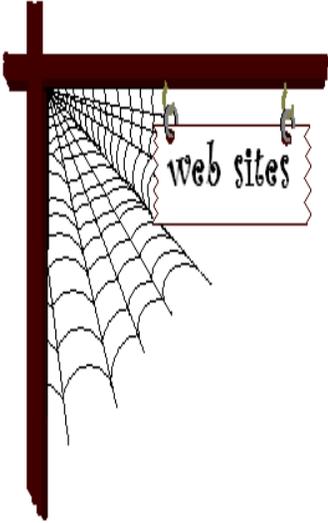


They  
Keep  
Tumbling  
Down

### BABY NAME BOOKS

Yes I use mine often. When I am stumped on a first name I refer to my "Name Your Baby" book. Often times under a name it will have variations listed. Some are easy such as Joe for Joseph but others are harder. Did you know that Eleanor is a derivative of Helen. This means that if your great-great grandmother went by Eleanor she could actually be listed as Helen on some documents. It comes in handy for spelling variations too, such as David and its scotch variation of Daibidh.





### Canadian Sites:

- Archives of Manitoba  
[www.gov.mb.ca/chc/archives](http://www.gov.mb.ca/chc/archives)
- Automated Genealogy  
[www.automatedgenealogy.com](http://www.automatedgenealogy.com)
- Our Roots [www.ourroots.ca](http://www.ourroots.ca)
- Images Canada  
[www.imagescanada.ca/index-e.html](http://www.imagescanada.ca/index-e.html)
- The Canadian County Atlas Digital Project  
[www.digital.library.mcgill.ca/countyatlas](http://www.digital.library.mcgill.ca/countyatlas)
- Nova Scotia Historical Vital Statistics  
[www.novascotiagenealogy.com](http://www.novascotiagenealogy.com)
- Canadian Genealogy Centre  
[www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/genealogy/index-e.html](http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/genealogy/index-e.html)
- That's My Family  
[www.thatsmyfamily.info](http://www.thatsmyfamily.info)



### **GENEALOGY TIP OF THE DAY**

by: Michael John Neill

#### **Don't Grab the First One**

I was lucky that an ancestor married in October of 1870 a few months after the census. Finding her parents was a little more difficult. I searched for everyone with her name in the 1870 census, searching the census in a circle with a 15 or so mile radius of where she married in 1870. Then I researched every person with her name in 1870 and eliminated those that couldn't be her. The key was that I didn't just grab the "first one" I found and that I also used variant spellings even after I had a match on the "right name," just in case.

## OFFICERS

### **Elected Officers**

President.....Tom Nielsen  
 Vice President.... Judy Uelmen  
 Treasurer..... Don Kueny  
 Secretary.....Sylvia Canada

Tom Nielsen  
 262-654-3644  
[nielsentj1973@att.net](mailto:nielsentj1973@att.net)  
[www.kengensoc.com](http://www.kengensoc.com)

### **Permanent Officers**

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

### **Appointed Officers**

Activities Chairperson.....Open  
 Digital Equipment..... Don Kueny  
 Display Case Chairperson.....Suzanne Dibble  
 Education..... Open  
 Hospitality..... Sharon Worm  
 Publicity..... Judy Reynolds  
 Refreshment.... Open  
 Sunshine..... Claudia Schiller  
 Surname Book Chairperson.....Judy Uelmen  
 Webmaster..... Jeff Huff

### **Disclaimer**

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## **Some recent circulating books of potential interest in the Kenosha Katalog From Patty Bajabir**

### **MAPS & LAND:**

**Sanborn Map Company insurance maps for Kenosha** from 1918 are found on the atlas stand in a Very heavy volume—not cataloged.

**Walking with your ancestors : a genealogist's guide to using maps and geography /Melinda Kashuba.** Kashuba, Melinda. c2005.

**Hidden sources : family history in unlikely places /Laura Szucs Pfeiffer.** Pfeiffer, Laura Szucs, c2000.

**Military bounty land, 1776-1855 / by Christine Rose.** Rose, Christine, 2011.  
**Land & property research in the United States / by E. Wade Hone, with Heritage Consulting and Services.** Hone, E. Wade, 1997.

### **BOOKS ABOUT CEMETERIES AND SEPULCHRAL MONUMENTS:**

**The American resting place / Marilyn Yalom ; photographs by Reid Yalom.** Yalom, Marilyn. 2008.  
**Stories in stone : a field guide to cemetery symbolism and iconography /written and photographed by Douglas Keister.** Keister, Douglas. 2004.

**Your guide to cemetery research / Sharon DeBartolo Carmack.** Carmack, Sharon DeBartolo, 2002.

**Stones and bones of New England : a guide to unusual, historic, and otherwise notable cemeteries /Lisa Rogak.** Rogak, Lisa, c2004.

**Permanent Italians : an illustrated, biographical guide to the cemeteries of Italy /Judi Culbertson and Tom Randall.** Culbertson, Judi. 1996.

### **BOOK ABOUT LEGACY LETTERS:**

**Nothing left unsaid : creating a healing legacy with final words and letters /Mary Polce-Lynch.** Polce-Lynch, Mary. 2006.

### **WRITING YOUR HISTORY:**

**You can write your family history / Sharon DeBartolo Carmack.** Carmack, Sharon DeBartolo, c2003.

**Touching tomorrow : how to interview your loved ones to capture a lifetime of memories on video or audio /Mary Lo Verde.** LoVerde, Mary. c2000.

**Oral history for the family historian : a basic guide /Linda Barnickel.** Barnickel, Linda A. [2006]

(Second of a three part series, watch for part three next month)